

# **TPB MEMBER INFO**

## **UPDATE: COVID 19**



### **DOT OUTLINES TOURISM RESPONSE, POST-COVID 19 RECOVERY PLAN TO AID PRIVATE SECTOR**

*15 April 2020*

Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat assures the public that the Department of Tourism (DOT) is doing everything within its mandate to aid the stakeholders of the country's tourism industry in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DOT and the Tourism Promotions Board have also waived the participation fees in international fairs and exhibitions between now and the end of 2021. DOT has also been communicating with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) and the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to provide rehabilitation financing support.

Also among the immediate response of DOT was mounting its own 20 sweeper flights and assisting those by embassies that helped many of the travel trade's clients leave the country.

The DOT assures its tourism stakeholders that it will continue to extend them assistance to cushion the impact of the crisis on the industry.

**Read more:**  
[http://tourism.gov.ph/news\\_features/covid19recoveryplantoaidprivatesector.aspx](http://tourism.gov.ph/news_features/covid19recoveryplantoaidprivatesector.aspx)

***"To cushion the impact, the DOT and its attached agencies, even before the lockdown, laid out the response and recovery plan during the initial stages of the COVID-19 outbreak in the country with the tourism sector taking a direct hit early on"***

**DOT OFFERS ONLINE "ENHANCED OPPORTUNITY" TRAINING FOR TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS**

**MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

**COVID - 19: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST**

**LIVE WEBINAR: SMART AND AGILE TOURISM IN REAL TIME**

**HOW IS COVID-19 CHANGING THE BUSINESS EVENTS INDUSTRY?**

**PACEOS FREE SEMINAR: MICE IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC COPING AND MOVING FORWARD**

**AND MORE...**

## DOT OFFERS ONLINE "ENHANCED OPPORTUNITY" TRAINING FOR TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS

*Department of Tourism -Philippines Official FB Page*

The Department of Tourism (DOT) has launched an online training program for the country's tourism stakeholders to stay relevant, learn to cope with the difficulties arising from the global pandemic novel coronavirus or COVID-19, and to facilitate transition to recovery.

DOT Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said the program dubbed DOT Online Training is done via Zoom video conferencing and offers the stakeholders an option to use their time productively during the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), which has been extended to April 30.

**Read more:**

<https://web.facebook.com/DepartmentOfTourism/posts/3533237826703064>



“

**The DOT is developing online courses for tourism stakeholders . This conceptualized as an alternative to the regular training programs being conducted by the Office of Industry Manpower Development. This is our vision in embracing a new normal for our industry.**



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

The Tourism Promotions Board (TPB) and Intramuros Administration (IA) hosted **Virtual Tours for the Holy Week** on its digital platforms as an alternative to the traditional faith-based practices in light of enhanced community quarantine (ECQ).

TPB #WEHEALASONE

**MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

**Sweeper flights and Assistance to OFWs**

The DOT extended assistance in looking for rooms for OFWs, BPO and Bank workers, and assisted stranded tourists.

Sweeper flights arranged	20
Hotel Rooms for OFWs in NCR	13,116
Hotel Rooms for BPOs, banks, health workers, etc. in NCR	25,687
Hotel Rooms identified for use as COVID facility in Luzon	40,217
Hotel Rooms identified for use as COVID facility in Visayas	5,507
Hotel Rooms identified for use as COVID facility in Mindanao	2,828
Domestic Tourists Assisted	1,456
Foreign Tourists Assisted	19,432

Numbers as of April 23, 2020

TPB #WEHEALASONE

**MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

The Tourism Promotions Board's special contingency fund were used for the following:

- Financial assistance for food, accommodation, transfer arrangement and other support for 1,500 stranded domestic tourists in the country
- 5,000 Travel Essential kits for Persons Under Monitoring (PUM) in Metro Manila
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and vitamins for 2,000 tourism frontliners in airports
- 6,000 pieces of surgical masks for 1,944 tourism frontliners in airports

TPB #WEHEALASONE



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The DOT lobbied with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to defer the payment of aeronautical fees for local carriers.

The Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) and Clark International Airport Authority (CIAA) - deferred payment for one year starting March 2020

Mactan Cebu International Airport Authority (MCIAA) - deferred payment for one year starting February 2020



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

DOT, LGUs and other government agencies are providing transportation and support for stranded tourists to ferry them to the region's gateway cities/municipalities.



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

DOT imposed a moratorium on accreditation fees for 2020 from new and renewing applicants from Tourism Enterprises (TEs) and Tourism-Related Enterprises.



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

DOT is giving a **one-time voucher to stranded domestic tourists\*** to help in their expenses during the Extended Community Quarantine Period.

\*An eligible domestic tourist is one that is registered with the DOT Regional Office and has a confirmed return land, air, and sea ticket to their home province, city or municipality within the ECQ period



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

TIEZA, the infrastructure and investment arm of DOT, suspends its programs and reallocated the budget to support the purchase of **medical facilities and equipment** through the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act."



## MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY DOT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Department of Tourism (DOT) and Tourism Promotions Board (TPB) waived the participation fees for all international travel shows and fairs for 2020 and 2021.



# COVID - 19: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

UNWTO, Updated 14 April 2020

UNWTO also calls upon the sector and travelers to address this challenge with sound judgment and proportionate measures.

Tourism is currently one of the most affected sectors and UNWTO has revised its 2020 forecast for international arrivals and receipts, though emphasizes that such any predictions are likely to be further revised. Against a backdrop of travel restrictions being introduced, UNWTO underscores the importance of international dialogue and cooperation and emphasizes the COVID-19 challenge also represents an opportunity to show how solidarity can go beyond borders.

Read more:

[https://unwto.org/tourism-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR2HgzQ0sG46AUzPvol3CR1KnNbNp\\_ONCFUMdOsCbiY0Os5HjUle9r-E](https://unwto.org/tourism-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR2HgzQ0sG46AUzPvol3CR1KnNbNp_ONCFUMdOsCbiY0Os5HjUle9r-E)



## LIVE WEBINAR: SMART AND AGILE TOURISM IN REAL TIME

The webinar will be joined by marketing experts for an hour and a half long discussion on how to respond to new challenges and demands in a fast-changing sector like tourism in the current situation.

Date: April 21 2020

Time: 6:00 PM (MNL time)

Organizer: UNWTO

*Pre-registration required:*

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8zDD-OtrSueIpPtOoLJsig](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8zDD-OtrSueIpPtOoLJsig)

# HOW IS COVID-19 CHANGING THE BUSINESS EVENTS INDUSTRY?

PCMA Convene Editors



Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) is a professional organization with more than 7,000 members in 37 countries located in North America, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Australia and New Zealand. Founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, PCMA relocated from Birmingham, Alabama to its current headquarters in Chicago, Illinois, in 2000. PCMA has chapters throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. The organization's Education Foundation provides scholarship and supports research. Its award-winning monthly magazine, *Convene*, began in 1986. PCMA's Digital Experience Institute provides live stream and digital events. PCMA aims to drive global economic and social transformation through business events including its own Convening Leaders annual conference. Other PCMA events include its Education Conference and Knowledge Exchanges, small regional networking and education opportunities.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Professional\\_Convention\\_Management\\_Association](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Professional_Convention_Management_Association)



To get a sense of how business events professionals are responding on Covid-19, PCMA sent out an email invitation on April 1 to its database of event planners and suppliers to participate in a survey on the coronavirus' effect on them, their organizations, and their events. The link to participate was also included in PCMA newsletters and on social media. A total of 1,776 people responded to the survey over five days; 69 percent (1,230 individuals) identified as business event professionals. Their results can be found on pp. 2–8 of this report. Thirty-one percent of respondents (546 individuals) identified as suppliers serving business events professionals. You'll find supplier track responses on pp. 9–11.

While there is no denying the toll COVID-19 has already taken on the industry, it is a testament to the resilience of the professionals who make up the business events industry that so many who responded to this survey were using this time as an opportunity to reset — to rethink a future in which digital events are an important part of the knowledge-sharing and connection-making mix, to plan for how in-person events can assuage concerns about the spread of germs in a post-pandemic world, and to redraw their value proposition.

**Download full survey report:**

[https://www.pcma.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/pcma-convene-covid19-survey-p5d3.pdf?utm\\_source=pardot&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=organic&utm\\_campaign=covid-19](https://www.pcma.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/pcma-convene-covid19-survey-p5d3.pdf?utm_source=pardot&utm_medium=email&utm_term=organic&utm_campaign=covid-19)

**PACEOS Free Webinar:**  
**MICE in the Time of Pandemic**  
**Coping and Moving Forward**  
April 21, 2020 (Tuesday) - 2:00pm - 3:00pm  
Tune in to [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/paceos.org) /PACEOS.org or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHLMICEAcademy) /PHLMICEAcademy or [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/paceos) /exlinkvents

**TPB Issues and Challenges & Programs for MICE Stakeholders**  
Karen Miranda  
Acting Head, MICE Department, Tourism Promotions Board

**Exhibition and Conference Organizer Issues & Challenges**  
Joel Pascual  
President, PACEOS / President, PEPANUS Corporation

**Venue Issues & Challenges**  
Agnes Pacis  
VP for Sales and Marketing, SM Convention Center

**MICE Logistics Issues & Challenges**  
Deedee Ledonio  
President, Columbo Transport Inc. (Coltrans)

**Hotel Events Issues & Challenges**  
Christine Urbano-Ibarreto  
President, Hotel Sales and Marketing Association  
Director of Sales and Marketing, Golden Phoenix Hotel

**The Digital Alternative for MICE**  
Bea Lim  
Managing Director, TeamAsia

Moderated by  
Monette Ilturalde-Hamlin  
President/Founder, TeamAsia

Powered by

## MICE IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC COPING AND MOVING FORWARD

The webinar will discuss about the MICE Industry's Issues and Challenges during this pandemic and how stakeholders are managing and adapting to the new normal.

Date: April 21 2020

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Organizer: Philippine Association of Convention/Exhibition Organizers and Suppliers Inc. (PACEOS)

Stream on:

<https://www.facebook.com/paceos.org/>

## HOTEL SENTIMENT SURVEY 2020

(Impact of COVID-19)  
*April 2020, Philippines*

Horwath HTL is the world's largest hospitality consulting brand with 50 offices across the world providing expert local knowledge. In conjunction with Tajara Hospitality, it has conceived a sentiment survey as a hotel industry level gauge of the impact received by hotels/resorts in Philippines, to understand some of the mitigating measures applied to limit the fallout, and as a quick assessment of future market predictions.

Access full survey report:  
<https://www.hospitalitynet.org/files/152008814.pdf>



**TAJARA** **Horwath HTL**  
Hotel, Tourism and Leisure  
**Hotel Sentiment Survey 2020**  
(Impact of COVID-19)

April 2020  
Philippines





# HOW TO “SAVE” THE TOURISM SECTOR IN THIS TIME OF NCOV (COVID-19)

*By Caloy Libosada, Pinoy Tourist*

Let's be sober and blunt about it. The NCOV virus will kill off many businesses, and at the forefront of the battle, where the mortality rate will be very high, is the tourism industry. Tourism cannot fight off the emerging pandemic by treating the present and immediate future as business as usual. To survive the ongoing onslaught of the virus, the industry has to dig in. Really deep.

No matter how long the pandemic lasts, governments will have to eventually respond and take calculated gambles to either continue or start allowing businesses to open up and for people to go out and work.

## Domestic it is.

Unless there is a local lockdown, the domestic travel market is the most resilient. And unknown to some, it is actually the backbone of many country's tourism industry. It is very common that the domestic tourists take up 70% to 90% of the travel market. So, as long as the domestic tourist market remains confident, the travel sector can still hope to breathe in times of trouble.

As a conclusion, it will be a very hard and long struggle for the tourism sector. But it cannot just surrender to the virus because the option of losing businesses and jobs would make it unacceptable to many. There are ways to cope with the challenges. But the industry will have to adapt and accept the fact it is not business as usual.... yet.



Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, Puerto Princesa, Palawan



River tubing at Tibiao River, Tibiao, Antique



White river rafting, Cagayan de Oro

**Read more:**  
<https://www.pinoytourist.com/blog-1/how-to-save-the-tourism-sector-in-this-time-of-ncov-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR26xVame6tv1sYhxFZ44Q5ChMoMLyX20VwaBGa5iaMbRjcZaEjheNo>

## ADAPTING TO THE TIMES

By Rachel AJ Lee, TTGMice, 30 March 2020

It took chief QODE officer Jackie Taranto and her partners eight days to convert a live tech event into a virtual festival as the pandemic threatened continuity. Ten days before the start of QODE Brisbane on March 13, it became apparent that large public gatherings (in Australia) would be prohibited. Three of our global speakers who had already arrived in Brisbane, and the idea of going virtual was hatched.

Innovation usually comes when it's pushed hard and fast – when all minds are working 24/7, that's when you get a breakthrough! We contacted all of our speakers and exhibitors, and around 85 per cent jumped on board even though it was a first for everyone. That's the great thing about innovation – you have to pivot and shift to survive and those who do will survive and those who don't, won't. It was a very challenging week, but it was very rewarding.

Read more:  
<https://www.ttgmice.com/2020/03/30/adapting-to-the-times/>

## TTGmice



## TTG CONVERSATIONS: THE END OF EVENTS AS WE KNOW IT?

The hour-long webinar will utilise such event formats as the world recovers from the pandemic, as well as share their learnings in converting physical gatherings to online ones.

Date: April 29 2020

Time: 3:00 PM -4:00 PM (GMT +8)

Organizer: TTGMice

Register at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6487434569943517710?source=Dailies>

\*Pre-registration required. Capacity is limited and registrations are on a first come, first served basis.



STAY HOME TODAY | #TRAVELTOMORROW | UNWTO

**TPBPHL**  
TOURISM PROMOTIONS BOARD PHILIPPINES  
MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

*Your feedback matters.*

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQL5fKuiEz26to6ewCEXbLe1d54X8FdwQZp7st4LmLNQ0MQsA/viewform>

FOR YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

